NAVAL MESSAGE ~~TOP SECRET~~ NAVY DEPARTMENT

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22 NOV 58	1157Z/22 NOV	BOYDEN	JP/Boyden

2484 NO — 242029Z JUL 58 (DATE/TIME GROUP (GCT))

PRECEDENCE

(ACT)	(INFO)
☐ FLASH	☐
☐ EMERGENCY	☐
☐ OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	☐
☐ PRIORITY	☐
☐ ROUTINE	☐
☐ DEFERRED	☐

FROM: CINCPAC

TO: HEDUSAF // CNO //

INFO: CINCPACAF // COTDC/MAAG TAIWAN // OASD/ISA //

DECLASSIFIED BY: JCS DECLASSIFICATION BRANCH DATE 18 June 1974

ACTION COG J-3

READDRESSED: PRIORITY 220043Z NOV 58
FM: CINCPAC
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INFO	
JCS	1
Dir JS	1
Secy JCS	1
Dep Secy	1
	2
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	2
AAD	1
JC/JCS	1
JS	1
SC	
JS #4	

REF A. HQ USAF 092119Z CITE AFMMS-PP 53075 PASEP.

B. COMTDC/MAAG TAIWAN 100753Z CITE AFS-DO 368S PASEP.

C. CINCPACAF 052100Z CITE PFDOP 0400 PASEP. USAF FOR AFMMS. SUBJ IS CHINAT RECON PROGRAM.

IN NOTING USAF OFFER 4 RF100 PHOTO RECON ACFT FOR CHINAT SPECIAL PROGRAM, DESIRE MAKE OUR POSITION CLEAR THIS SUBJ. CINCPAC IS OF OPINION THAT DEEP PENETRATION RECON OF CHINA MAINLAND IS INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT NOW IN VIEW TROUBLED SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST AND POSSIBILITY OUTBREAK COMMUNIST ACTIVITY ELSEWHERE IN ATTEMPT DIVERT US ATTENTION. MUCH TIME HAS ELAPSED SINCE US HAS RECEIVED PHOTO RECON OF INLAND CHINA BEYOND HANKOW/HENGYANG LINE. MOST EXISTING INLAND COVERAGE TAKEN DURING 1944-1949 PERIOD. BELIEVE US REQUIREMENT FOR THIS VITAL PHOTO

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JCS...COG(1-20)
ARMY(21-35)
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242029Z JUL 58 DTG

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381 Formosa (11-8-58) Sec 37

7-24-58

5-12-59 M/F rec Nov. 8"

INTELLIGENCE MUCH GREATER THAN CHINAT REQUIREMENT.

CHINATS EXTREMELY UNHAPPY BECAUSE OF INABILITY SUCCESSFULLY RECONNOITER INLAND BASES. RF84F AND RB57 ABLE ACFT HAVE BEEN INTERCEPTED AND SHOT DOWN. CHINATS HAVE OPENLY EXPRESSED FEELINGS TO COMTDC/MAAG PERSONNEL THAT US ATTEMPTING OBTAIN RESULTS FROM CHINAT RECCO EFFORT WITHOUT PROVIDING EQUIP SUITABLE TO REQUIREMENTS AND EVIDENCE CHINAT RELUCTANCE CONTINUE RECCO WITH CURRENT EQUIPMENT IS NOW WIDESPREAD. DO NOT MEAN TO IMPLY THAT CURRENT RECESSION IN CHINAT RECCO EFFORT WHOLLY FAULT OF US. ON CONTRARY, WE RECOGNIZE THAT CERTAIN CHINAT FIGHTER TYPE RECON TACTICS HAVE CONTRIBUTED DIRECTLY TO FAILURE OF MISSIONS. HOWEVER, ONLY PATIENCE AND CALM DIRECTION OF THEIR EFFORTS WILL CORRECT THIS SITUATION. AT PRESENT IT APPEARS 2 COURSES OF ACTION ARE OPEN:

A. CONTINUE PROVIDING ACFT WITH ONLY MARGINAL OR NO PERFORMANCE SUPERIORITY OVER CHICOM INTERCEPTORS AND CONTINUE ATTEMPTS INFLUENCE RECON TACTICS TO INCREASE POSSIBILITY SUCCESS.

B. PROVIDE LIMITED QUANTITY LATEST TYPE HIGH PERFORMANCE RECON ACFT IN ORDER OBTAIN SUFFICIENT PERFORMANCE ADVANTAGE TO

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ASSURE RESULTS UNTIL CHICOMS RECEIVE BETTER INTERCEPTOR ACFT.

WE APPRECIATE THE USAF POSITION REGARDING NON-AVAILABILITY RF101 AND RECOGNIZE RF100 OR NAVY F8U-1P BOTH HAVE SPEED ADVANTAGE WHILE USING MAX POWER WITH AFTER-BURNER BUT UNDER THIS CONDITION THEIR COMBAT RADIUS IS DECREASED. SAME CONDITION WOULD HOLD TRUE FOR RG101 OR COMPARABLE ACFT. HOWEVER, RESULTANT COMBAT RADIUS PROBABLY WOULD BE GREATER THAN FOR RF100 OR F8U-1P DURING RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH COMUSTDC, SERIOUNESS OF SITUATION, PARTICULARLY FROM CHINAT POINT OF VIEW MAKES EVIDENT FACT THAT US SHOULD PROVIDE LATEST TYPES HIGH SPEED, HIGH PERFORMANCE ACFT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. PACAF UNITS SHOULD BE IN A POSITION TO DETERMINE RF101 CAPABILITY APPROXIMATELY 3 TO 6 MONTHS AFTER RECEIPT OF ACFT. AT THAT TIME, ESTIMATED TO BE THIRD OR FOURTH QUARTER FY59, FURTHER CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO PROVIDING RF101 TO CAF.

IF THE US POSSESSES OTHER HIGH PERFORMANCE RECON ACFT WITH CHARACTERISTICS SIMILAR TO THE RF101 THEY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED. HOWEVER, TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE TO KEEP THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD.

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DESIRE REITERATE THIS IS NOT ROUTINE MAP PROBLEM BUT RATHER A SITUATION WHEREIN US WOULD BENEFIT DIRECTLY FROM SUCCESSFUL RECON MISSIONS. BELIEVE THE FUTURE SUCCESS OF CHINAT RECON EFFORT DEPENDS ON TYPE EQUIP OFFERED AT THIS TIME. CHINATS UNDERSTAND ADVANTAGES OF SPEED BUT APPARENTLY ARE NOT YET COMPLETELY CONVINCED OF MORE SUBTLE ADVANTAGE OFFERED BY VERY HIGH ALTITUDE PERFORMANCE IN CONJUNCTION WITH RELATIVELY LOW AIR SPEEDS, DUE TO THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH THE RB57A. HOWEVER THE RB57D SHOULD CORRECT THIS IMPRESSION AS WELL AS PROVIDE ALTERNATE TECHNIQUE FOR OBTAINING DEEP PENETRATION PHOTO COVERAGE. CHICOM RADAR NET AND INTERCEPT CAPABILITY PRESENTS FORMIDABLE BARRIER TO SUCCESSFUL PENETRATION BUT AT SAME TIME OFFER EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO FIELD TEST NEW US RECON VEHICLES AND DETECT SOFT SPOT IN CHICOM AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM.

AS INTERIM SOLUTION TO PRESENT PROBLEM, RECOMMEND IMMEDIATE PROVISION 4 RF100 OR F8U-1P PHOTO ACFT TO BRIDGE GAP UNTIL SUCH TIME AS RF101 OR COMPARABLE ACFT CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE.

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